

Determined Promise 03 August 20, 2003

On August 20th and 21st, Safe Environment Engineering had the unique opportunity of participating in Exercise Determined Promise 03, conducted by the United States Northern Command. This exercise was designed to evaluate the command's ability to command and control multiple homeland defense and military assistance to civil authorities missions simultaneously. The full exercise took place from Aug 18th through Aug 28th in Clark County, Nev.



McIntosh Communications, because of their involvement with Nevada OSHA, was invited to participate in this exercise. While the exercise was not intended for vendors to show their wares, The State of Nevada's, Emergency Management Services, Gary Derks recognized the value of Life•line™ during a recent presentation of the system, and he decided to see if the system could live up to its claims.



Having the new responsibility of forming a HAZMAT Response team, OSHA has been evaluating current technologies in search of the perfect solutions.

The first scenario, located at the fairgrounds in Logandale, NV, a simulated chemical company had produced a product used to contaminate the Vegas Strip causing over 5000 people to get ill.



OSHA needed to enter the "laboratory" with the mission of determining what chemicals were in use. By attaching an ISC TMX412 meter and a Personal Safety Monitor to their suits, the team was able to enter the hot zone "hands free", making note taking much easier. In addition, real time gas readings were being transmitted back to the command post that was located about 50 yards away. The incident commander was able to watch over the safety of the responders so the responders could concentrate on their duties.

Life•line™ worked flawlessly during this exercise. Exercise participants voiced interest in the system and how it worked. Of particular interest was the fact that the readings could be seen real time by people outside the incident. A few of the interested participants were the Army National Guard of Arizona, the Clark county Hazmat team, the State of Idaho Emergency response team, and FEMA.



HAZMAT with Life•line™ PSM and attached gas detector.

Day two of the exercise gave Life•line™ another chance to shine. During this exercise Life•line™ met and exceeded the expectations of the Nevada OSHA Team and Las Vegas Fire and Hazmat. Life•line™ accomplished this by offering the benefit of hands free capabilities, constant monitoring in real time, and storage of information.



The scenario was that a victim was overcome with fumes from a chemical spill. The response team had to enter the incident site not knowing what the chemical was, assess the situation, rescue the victim, and clean up the area.



Life•line™ was used to protect the officers and the personnel who had to enter the potentially hazardous area. The incident commander was able to monitor the environment from the command post while the responders focused on getting the victim out and determining what the hazard was.



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